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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

HM-692PCT

Applicant(s)

Holger Behrens, et al

Serial No.

NOT YET KNOWN (PCT/EP04/06479)

Int. Filed

June 16, 2004

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For

DEVICE FOR HOT DIP COATING A METAL STRIP

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

SIR:

The attention of the Examiner and of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references cited in the International Search Report, a copy of which are attached. Copies of the references are forwarded herewith and are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449.

With the submission of this admitted prior art, applicant thus complies with the duty of disclosure as set forth at 37 CFR 1.56.

Respectfully submitted,

FK:ml

January 6, 2006

Encls: PTO-1449

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references

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service Express mail under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Friedrich Kueffner

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Form PTO-1449 Docket No.: HM-692PCT Serial No.: not known (PCT/EP04/06479) Applicant: Holger Behrens, et al LIST OF PRIOR ART " CITED BY APPLICANT Int. Filing Date: June 16, 2004 Group: U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS Exam Document Filing Date Init. Number Date NAME Class Subclass if appropriate AA AB FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS TRANSLATION Document Number Date COUNTRY Class Subclass Yes No 0 659 897 6/95 **EUROPEAN** X ΑF AG OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN, BD. 1999, NO. 12, OCTOBER 29, 1999 & MΑ JP 11 193451 A (MITSUBISHI HEAVY IND LTD) JULY 21, 1999 PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN, BD. 1995, NO. 06, JULY 31, 1995 & ANJP 7 076 759 A (KAWASAKI STEEL CORP), MARCH 20, 1995 PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN, BD. 1995, NO. 02, MARCH 31, 1995 & ΑO JP 6 306 556 A (NKK CORP) NOVEMBER 1, 1994 PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN, BD. 0174 NO. 92, SEPTEMBER 7, 1993 & AΡ JP 5 125 512 A (NKK CORP) MAY 21, 1993 PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN, BD. 0041, NO. 59, NOVEMBER 6, 1980 & JP 55 104 466 A (NIPPON PAINT CO LTD), AUGUST 9, 1980 EXAMINER: DATE CONSIDERED: